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 Painter, Paperhanger,
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 Signs of All Kinds
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**Mattress Making
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 Will make your old Mattress as
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Do you expect to build that
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J. A. DEUSON
 Contractor and Builder
 I will appreciate your patron-
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 Be sure of your lines before fencing
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 Will Attend to all Civil Matters
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 At the Independent Office
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**The Place
 of the
 Nativity**
 IN a place built, like Bethlehem, in
 many cases against the soft
 limestone rock it often happens
 that the existence of a cave where
 the house was to be was a great at-
 traction since it offered a ready
 made, dry, above ground cellar as
 well as a specially suitable spot for
 the household animals and for a
 storeroom. It would seem that Jo-
 seph was at last able to get room in
 some such back portion of a house,
 and there, we are told, Mary bore
 her divine Son.

A cave below the high altar of
 the Church of the Nativity is now
 shown as the very place where this
 august event transpired; a little re-
 cess, shaped like a clam shell, its
 floor of marble wrought into a star
 in the center, bearing in Latin the
 words, "Here Jesus Christ Was
 Born of the Virgin Mary." A row
 of lamps hangs round the outer
 edge, the right to attend to them be-
 ing a jealously watched matter, each
 of the ancient churches, the Greek,
 the Latin, the Armenian and the
 Coptic, having one or more of these
 under its care.

The evidence for this site is so
 strong that most persons accept it as
 sufficient, reaching up, as it does, to
 within living memory of the days of
 the apostles. But even if this be an
 illusion the fact remains that in this
 petty village the Saviour of the
 world was made man for our re-
 demption. No wonder that we read
 of the anthem of the angels, for
 surely nothing could draw forth the
 interest of the heavenly population
 like the exceeding grace God was
 showing to sinful man.

The scene of the visit of the shep-
 herds is pointed out as on a rough
 slope, facing the village, at some
 distance to the east, Bethlehem ly-
 ing far above on its mountain seat.
 One can follow the shepherds in
 their journey to see the unspeakable
 wonder. They would go along the
 rich valley of Boaz and then up the
 terraced hill by a path still in use,
 nor is it uninteresting to reflect
 that, while simple shepherds were
 led by angels to the manger, the
 high priest and the great of Jeru-
 salem, so near, slept through that
 most illustrious night of all history,
 quite unconscious of what had hap-
 pened. But we know of it, and may
 God grant that if we cannot go with
 the shepherds to Bethlehem we may
 one day go to the right hand of God
 and worship him there, who that
 night lay a little child in Mary's
 arms.—Dr. Cunningham Geikie.

One Christmas Pudding

Perhaps the most heroic at-
 tempt to keep Christmas in
 conventional fashion under
 unconventional conditions
 was that made by the
 late Lord Wolseley, when a
 young officer, in the trenches
 before Sebastopol during the
 Crimean war sixty years ago.
 He and his comrades decided
 that the Christmas should
 be honored and that there
 should be a plum pudding.
 The "pudding" was com-
 pounded of biscuit, grease
 and such fruit as could be ob-
 tained, the ingredients being
 mixed in a fragment of a
 Russian shell. Wrapped in a
 cloth, it was boiled for some
 hours, and a tasty reminder
 of the great festival was ca-
 gerly looked forward to by
 the hungry officers. But before
 the pudding was considered
 "cooked" orders came trans-
 ferring Wolseley and his tent
 companions to a distant part
 of the works.

Should they leave the pud-
 ding until their return or eat
 it as it was? They were hun-
 gry, and the latter course was
 decided upon. The "pudding"
 was duly swallowed, and
 away they went in obedience
 to orders. Late that night
 Wolseley was troubled with
 internal disturbances that ne-
 cessitated the doctor's kindly
 ministrations. It seemed, said
 the future field marshal, as if
 pieces of Russian shell were
 rolling against each other
 inside. It was the only pud-
 ding, the first and last, he
 ever made.

Christmas Gifts of a Century Ago

In a New York newspaper of
 1814, Christmas gifts were ad-
 vertised as follows:

"An assortment of Books,
 well calculated for the amuse-
 ment and instruction of Young
 Persons, among which are—
 Barton's Lectures on Female
 Education and Manners; Fos-
 ter's Essays on various sub-
 jects; Rasselas Chatechism of
 Nature, an excellent little
 book, price 3s.; Burder's Vil-
 lage Sermons; Mrs. Chapane's
 Letters on the Improvement of
 the Mind."

"A. T. Goodrich, No. 124
 Broadway, corner of Cedar
 street, has just received an ex-
 tensive assortment of fancy ar-
 ticles, Books, Prints, Meda-
 llions, Landscapes and small
 books for children, that are
 well adapted for purchase or
 gift, at this season of compli-
 mentary presents."

"By the last arrival from
 Europe, were also received
 several of the latest and best
 Novels, Poems and Miscella-
 neous Works;

"Fine letterpaper; visiting
 cards; Ladies' and Gentlemen's
 Pocket Books; Wallets and
 Memorandum Books; Fine Pen-
 knives; Cases of Best Silver
 Eyed Needles; Opera Glasses
 and Snuff Boxes."

The Christmas Story

7 HERE was peace on the lone Ju-
 dean hills,
 And the shepherds watched
 their flocks by night,
 When there came from the silent, star-
 ry sky
 A burst of glory, a dazzling light,
 And the angel choir from far away
 Sang "Peace on earth, good will to
 men."

And we hear the song o'er lapse of
 years
 As it echoes in our hearts again.
 They sang in notes of heavenly joy;
 They brought a message from God to
 men,
 For the Prince of Peace had come to
 earth

And a child
 was born at
 Bethlehem.
 The Christ had
 come, the
 King of
 Kings,
 That we might
 God in his
 beauty see
 And hearts be light in blessed hope
 That death should be swallowed in
 victory.

And they left their flocks and hasten-
 ed on
 To the city of David to see the babe,
 The Saviour of men and the Son of
 God,
 The humble child in a manger laid,
 And they marvel at that which had
 come to pass
 And return with glory and praise to
 God,
 While the chorus echoes within their
 hearts
 As back to the lonely hills they plod.
 As the shepherds of old, let us hasten
 on
 This Christmas day to Bethlehem
 town.



To be with him
 through the
 whole of
 life,
 To bear the
 cross and to
 gain the
 crown.
 No more shall
 we find him a
 lonely child,
 But there forever with God above
 He watches and guides our feeble steps
 Till he bears us home with his in-
 finite love.

How sweetly, how gladly to all the
 world
 There comes a message of hope
 today,
 For Christ is born and man is free
 And pain and sorrow must pass
 away.
 How sweetly and silently into the
 heart
 The Christ Child comes this blessed
 night
 To make us noble and good and true,
 For the light of the world is a won-
 drous light.

Dear Christ, may we follow with will-
 ing hearts
 The path of duty, where thou hast
 led,
 That sin and shame may have an end
 And that joy
 may fill our
 souls in
 stead.

And on this thy
 glorious natal
 day
 We shall catch
 the sound as
 the glad bells
 ring
 Till we hear thy summons to come
 away
 And in heaven above thy praises
 sing.

—Rev. Norman Van Pelt Lewis in Phil-
 adelphia Public Ledger.



GEO. P. LEARNARD PIANO CO.

214 South Walter St.
 Albuquerque, N. M.

Saturday, December 22d "Light of Happiness"

5 Reel Act

"Black Mail"

Comedy

Tuesday, Dec. 25, "Bridges Burned"

Wednesday, Dec. 26, "The Mortal Sin"

Thursday, Dec. 27, "Vanity"

Friday, Dec. 28, "Millionaires Double"

Saturday, Dec. 29, "In Diplomatic Service"

Electric Theatre

Matinee Saturday Afternoon at 2:30
 Prices 10 and 20 Cents

Holidays Presents

We will shortly have on display the largest and best assort-
 ed stock of Holidays Goods ever show in Mountainair.

Toilet and Fancy Articles, Jewelry, Silverware,
 Hand Bags, Purses, Dolls, all kinds of Children's
 Toys, Xmas Books, Fine Perfumes, Etc. Etc.

Lowney's and Nevin's Fine Chocolates in Fancy Boxes.

It will pay you to do your shopping early.

AMBLE'S PHARMACY

Piñon Hardware & Furniture Co.

G. T. McWhirter, Manager

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
Store Closed Christmas Day

ORDINANCE No. 10

Be It Ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Village of
 Mountainair:

Sec. 1.—Sunday for the purpose of this ordinance, shall be
 regarded as the time between 11:30 p. m. of Saturday and 12:00
 p. m. Sunday.

Sec. 2.—Any person or persons who shall be found on the
 first day of the week, called Sunday, engaged in any sports,
 racing, cock fighting, or in any other manner disturbing any
 worshipping assembly, or private family, or attending any public
 meeting, or public exhibitions, excepting for religious worship,
 or instruction, or engaged in any labor, except works of necessity,
 charity or mercy, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifteen
 dollars, nor less than five dollars, or imprisonment in the village
 jail of not more than fifteen days, nor less than five days, in the
 discretion of the court upon conviction thereof.

Sec. 3.—It shall be lawful for merchants to supply mer-
 chandise actually need on said day in cases of sickness or neces-
 sity, without being deemed guilty of violating this act; and
 nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent cooks, wait-
 ers and other employees of hotels and restaurants, and of butchers
 and bakers, from performing their duties on said day.

Sec. 4.—This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on
 and after its publication as required by law.

W. R. Orme, Mayor.

Attest: P. A. Speckmann, Clerk.

We wish to announce the arrival of a carload of

DORT CARS

See this Car before you Buy

This car was awarded first credit in Economy Test
 in 10,000 mile run, by the American Automobile Associa-
 tion, not only for Gasoline, but for Lubricating Oil as well.
 The Dort is a siver in up keep as well as running expenses.

For further information see

D. H. WAMOCK

at White's Store